CLAIMS

What is claimed is:

1. A tool and notation for capturing and communicating, in a graphically visual way, enterprise and technology structures, processes, strategies, and concepts comprising:

   (a) a plurality of shapes

   (b) a plurality of icons

   (c) variable text and fonts

   (d) a plurality of adornments and colors

   (e) a plurality of relationship graphical elements

   whereby blueprints are generated with a consistent notation across enterprise domains and between different enterprises.

2. The tool and notation of claim 1 wherein said icons and/or text can be placed within said shapes, which will then orient to the size and shape of said icon, and which are then named objects, which are semantically equivalent to simple and compound nouns.

3. The objects of claim 2 are modified with said adornments, colors, and text, which are semantically equivalent to adjectives that describe, limit, and/or indicate hierarchy, location, behaviors, and/or responsibilities.

4. The objects of claim 3 wherein said objects are allowed to be presented in graphical or text formats.

5. The objects of claim 3 are linked with said relationship graphical elements, which are semantically representative of a plurality of verbs, such as "has-owns," "has-uses," "is," "invokes," and "flow."

6. The objects of claim 3 wherein structured input areas are provided for the detailed specification of the object.

7. The objects of claim 3 wherein selected portions of the object specification are allowed to be displayed in a plurality of adornments to the shape.

8. The objects of claim 3 wherein there is a plurality of rule, process, and security object shapes.

9. The objects of claim 3 wherein there is a plurality of note, design point, initiative, and issue object shapes.

10. The objects of claim 3 wherein there is a plurality of adornments to identify process and hierarchy object shapes.

11. The objects of claim 3 wherein there is a plurality of user interface object shapes.

12. The objects of claim 3 wherein there is a plurality of domain object shapes.

13. The objects of claim 3 wherein there is a plurality of technology object shapes.

14. The tool and notation of claim 1 wherein there is a plurality of adornments for components that contain their own icon or text.

15. The tool and notation of claim 1 wherein there is an adornment to indicate plural or collections.

16. The tool and notation of claim 1 wherein specification documents are automatically generated from object information.

17. The tool and notation of claim 1 wherein the identity of notation objects and relationships are accessed and managed.

18. The tool and notation of claim 1 wherein output is provided to business and software construction tools, such as Microsoft Excel, Rational Rose or Microsoft Project.

19. A fence, grouping shape to enclose selected shapes comprising a border that can be infinitely, variably-shaped at all points.

20. A subordinate container shape, such as a bracket shape, that is connected to a parent shape or graphical element, comprising:

    (a) a variable amount of text and/or graphics

    (a) an attachment point that can be positioned anywhere around the parent shape only at predetermined, appropriate points in the vicinity closest to where the user indicates.